"The VW-4 aircraft located the hole by using radar and navigational equipment. Sea surface and underwater temperature readings were taken by dropping bathythermographs (temperature recorders) into the water.

"The hole, scientists discovered, is oval-shaped and measures 75 by 175 feet. Cables one thousand feet long have been dropped into the center of the hole but preliminary investigations failed to establish its depth.

"Marine biologists took samples of marine life and marine geologists studied the earth's crust in the area. Navy photographers attached to VW-4 used a newly developed color film to photograph the hole and a television camera was lowered into the hole from a support ship for pictures to be used in a future documentary.

"The hole may have been formed during one of the earth's ice ages and may be the only phenomenon of its kind on the east coast continental shelf."

Quite a lot of comment is called for on this. First, it is not a "hole in an ocean". It is a hole at the bottom of a sea, being on the continental shelf. Second, the suggestion that it "may have been formed during one of the earth's ice ages" is pure drivel. The last batch of southward ice-advances in North America did not get south of the Delaware River on the eastern seaboard. Should some so-called "ice-age" have had drastic effects on the climate and geology of southern Florida, by just what means could it cause a deep hole to appear on the bottom of the continental shelf, 30 miles off the coast? Come, now!

One might suggest that this is an underwater cenote, a circular or oval "sink-hole" such as are to be found all over the limestone (and lime marl) plateaux of Yucatan, Quintanaroo, and substantial parts of Florida. These areas are riddled with a network of caves, and many of these contain saltwater, though many miles inland, Further, we have seen aerial photographs taken from low altitude over shallow waters off the east coast of Quintanaroo, where the water is as clear as the air above, that show innumerable such cenotes; and going right out into deeper water. Just as saltwater leaks in under the adjacent land masses through some of these, so also can fresh water bubble up through them from pressure on said land.

What the Navy and the oceanographers ought to do is borrow a bathysphere, or bathyscope, or deepwater minisub, or some such, and go down to the bottom of that hole and look around for lateral "entrances" with a powerful spotlight.

VII. BIOLOGY

IVAN MARX'S FILM

In our April issue we reported very briefly on a film taken of an alleged Sasquatch (or Bigfoot, or what you will). The initial reports were favourable, and a number of veteran ABSM-'hunters' stated that so far as they could tell, the film seemed to be genuine. Our Director, Ivan T. Sanderson, talked to Mr. Marx by phone, and Mr. Marx stated that he planned to come to the East in late June or July; he asked if we could set up a showing for a panel of scientists, as had been done for the film taken by Roger Patterson. He was informed that we would be delighted to do this. However, our investigation of Mr. Marx and his film continued -- primarly through the good auspices of Mr. Peter Byrne, Director of the International Wildlife Conservation Society, Inc., a long-time friend of Mr. Sanderson's and formerly associated with the late Tom Slick who spent literally millions in an attempt to capture at least one kind of ABSM (he had groups both in our Northwest and in the Himalayan area). Just after the April PURSUIT went to press we re-

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A Note of Thanks:

We received, some time since, two books from a Mrs. John Tindall. We are delighted to have these, but we frankly haven't the foggiest notion who Mrs. Tindall is or where to reach her. Can any of our members help?

The Wilbert Smith "Coil"

One of our members is trying to collection information on this. If any of our members are interested in, and/or working on, this, it would be appreciated if they would write to us. We will put you in touch with this gentleman.

ceived the following report from Mr. Byrne, which we quote herewith:

"I am sending you half a dozen slides taken from the Marx film of the 'sasquatch'. For your interest, the 'creature' in these pictures, which is either Ivan Marx or another man in a fur suit, is no more than six feet in height. The lowest branches of the locust tree, under which he passes in picture No. 273 are between 6 ft 1 in and 6 ft 2 ins from ground level. You will also notice in the picture a white 'glimmer' in the left background. This is water, a small lake in the trees. Marx claimed that he took these pictures at a distance of between 20 and 30 ft with an ordinary lens. However, if this had been done the water would not show in the picture. The water can only be seen from a higher elevation and this elevation can only be obtained by backing up a small hill (which does not show in the foreground) and shooting the scene from this hill with a telescopic lens. This is what Marx did. He used a telescopic lens, with a tripod. But he did not have a tele[photo] lens with him on the day that he supposedly photographed the sasquatch (Oct. 7th).

"The actual points of proof that we have that the Marx film is a hoax are these:

"A. It was not made where he said that he made it. (And where, on the day, he took ten or so people up with him, went in, talked on the radio back and forth, said that he was in sight of the creature, was getting pictures of it, that it was turning towards them, to try and head it off, etc., etc.).

"B. It was not made at the time that he said that it was made (Oct 7th) but at another time, probably some time in September, when he was twice seen in the actual area of the movie (where it was actually made) supposedly gathering mushrooms with another man called Red Moon.

"C. The movie was made with a tele[photo] lens at a distance of from 30 to 40 yards from the subject, using a tripod. Marx had no tripod with him on the 7th Oct.

"D. Marx claimed to have leaned his camera against a tree to get the smooth pictures that he did get of the sasquatch. There is no tree where he stood to take these pictures.

"There is more. . . .but it is circumstantial and cannot be regarded as proof positive.

"1. Marx bought old fur coats at the Goodwill Store in Spokane in August of last year, a month before the film. He was seen there by a man called Gordon Izacks, of Evans.

"2. When he emerged from the forest on the day of the movie, when he supposedly had been following a sasquatch for four to five hours (and he told me that he had great difficulty in keeping up with it) he wore a shirt buttoned up to the neck and was not sweating. John Suismehil (name spelling uncertain), a Border Patrol man, with experience in human observation, noticed this.

"3. When he gave us (IWCS) the slides of the film to look at, he carefully removed all slides that contained the apple tree. This stunted apple tree was an identification mark that worried Marx. A small boy, the child of the people who actually discovered the place of the hoax,* had noticed this in Marx's house when he first showed the film to some local people in November. Marx remembered this and presumably was worried about it being noticed and so it was not included in the slides of the film that he gave to us.

"4. We learned, some time in February, that he had also taken some stills on the day of the filming. He

*[Footnote from Peter Byrne: "Don Byington (who found the place where Marx made the film, after a search that started when his young son, viewing the film in Marx's house, thought that he recognised the site and said so. The search, carried on quietly, without telling anyone, by Byington and his wife, took four months.) Byington is a rancher at Evans, near Bossburg.]

"The 800th Lifetime" from Future Shock, by Alvin Toffler.

"...if the last 50,000 years of man's existence was divided into lifetimes of approximately 62 years each, there have been about 800 such lifetimes. Of these 800, fully 650 were spent in caves. [sic]

"Only during the last 70 lifetimes has it been possible to communicate effectively from one lifetime to another--as writing made it possible to do. Only during the last six lifetimes did masses of men ever see a printed word. Only during the last four has it been possible to measure time with any precision. Only during the last two has anyone, anywhere, used an electric motor. And the overwhelming majority of all material goods we use in daily life today have been developed within the present--the 800th--lifetime."

never showed us these stills. Presumably he was worried that we might blow them up and see whatever it was that the National Film Company in Salt Lake City saw. . . .we heard that it was stitching in the fur joints.

"5. Under the terms of his contract he was to hand over the master copy of the film to us for safe keeping. He gave us a canister, which we, trusting the man, never did open. (In any case, master copies of film should never be handled.) When we heard, in late March, that he was in the process of releasing and distributing the film in Canada, we opened the canister, which contained mostly blank film."

We have not heard from Mr. Marx since Mr. Byrne queried him about these items, and there is no indication whatsoever that he plans to come east to show his film to experts in physical anthropology. In fact, he left Bossburg and returned to Burney, California, (rather quietly, apparently), stating that the people in Bossburg (one must assume that he is referring to various investigators) "were not very nice to me".

There are those who still believe that Marx's film may be genuine, though even they admit that there are discrepancies in his story. Some of the facts, in no particular order (!), are as follows.

Marx has owned good camera equipment for a good many years. His 'business' is taking people on cougar hunts, and one of his gimmicks is to film the hunt from start to finish, providing the hunter with an additional 'souvenir' of his hunt. (The fact that cougars — or pumas, mountain lions, 'painters', 'panthers', etc. — should not be hunted because they do preserve the so-called "balance of nature" is distressing in this context, but not relevant here.) He has a motion picture camera, identified as a Bolex 16 mm, and a 35 mm camera; the latter is identified as a Nikon in various newspaper articles, though our member No. 292, who is himself a photographic expert, states that it was his opinion that the 'still' camera Marx owns is a very old Argus (he did not examine it, but notes that that camera had a very good lens indeed).

We are also told that the reason that Marx has been unable to find a 'buyer' for his film is excessive greediness: his price is reportedly based on "How much per head for 200 million viewers?"! [emphasis ours] No television or film producer is going to even consider such a 'deal'.

Also, Marx has told some people that this particular Suskwatch is the one known as the "Old Cripple" who has been known for years in the Colville area. At the same time, he has also contended that it was one recently injured: According to The Statesman-Examiner of the 13th November, 1970, in an article by Denny Striker, "On the night of Oct. 6 [1970] an unidentified person [who said he knew Marx] called the Marx home, leaving a vague message that either a car or a train had struck a large, upright creature on the highway about seven miles north of Bossburg." Somebody apparently changed this story somewhere along the line, since our member No. 292 reports that he was told that the person reported that he had hit the creature and thought it was a Suskwatch. Now, Denny Striker stated that "Probably the most impressive part of the film, besides its extreme clarity [this we are not sure of; John Green reports the film to be "badly underlighted"], is the fact that the Sasquatch is visibly injured, holding its right arm tightly to its chest and using its long muscular left arm for compensating balance. Also, both ankles appear badly skinned, the wounds showing plainly raw against the black hair of the legs and feet. In watching the frames singly, the injured or skinned area appears to extend onto the bottom of one foot, and possibly on both feet which would account for the apparent pain-filled movement of the frightened creature." This clearly implies a recently wounded ABSM, not the "Old Cripple" who has been wandering around for years near the railroad tracks.

Marx reportedly has 35 mm still shots of this alleged ABSM as well as 35 mm film, though he has been extremely cagey about letting anyone see the stills. They are reported to be extremely clear by Rene Dahinden — who, oddly enough in view of his activities, doesn't believe in ABSMs! — but we have not seen them, nor have casual visitors, all of whom are apparently expected to pay for this "privilege"! That Marx was able to get both excellent motion pictures and stills indicates really exceptional ability on his part. This author (MLF) is pretty fair photographer, but she would not attempt to do both at once!

There is no question at all that Marx expected to "make a million" on his film. He lives in what has been described as a "Tobacco Road Shack"! He does have a rather nice guest house for the hunters he takes out to look for pumas; but his own home is, we are told, put together with bailing wire and string. And his first move on 'getting' this film was to check various color TV sets for reception in his area. He had formerly owned a radio.

It is also reported that, rather than treating this film as valuable, he sent it off by mail to an outfit that processes film and sends a new roll with the processed film. This is hardly the way one treats a unique bit of work!

Let's face it. Marx has lived in the area a good

many years; he was associated, however remotely, with Tom Slick who spent millions searching for a Suskwatch; and he is, so far as we are able to determine, "money hungry". The movements made by a Suskwatch have been described in detail by Amerinds, and are also shown in Roger Patterson's film (!) which no one has been able to prove is a hoax.

John Green intends to make some experiments with a camera come next fall, to see just what is visible, etc., on the day that Marx says he filmed it – and the day that Peter Byrne specifies. Until proved otherwise, I'm afraid we accept Mr. Byrne's report.

Or would Ivan Marx like to "report in" and let us see everything he has?

There would seem to be a general impression that if one can get a motion picture of an ABSM, one will automatically make a million dollars. Patterson and Marx have now found out otherwise. In fact, films -- though facts in themselves, even if genuine (which Patterson's seems to be) -- are not proof of the existence of these creatures. The only real proof is a specimen, living or dead. And anent this: we receive innumerable letters from members and non-members, asking "What happens if I shoot one?". If you do so in Skamania County, Washington, you can get five years in jail and a $10,000 fine. So far as we know, this is the only formal ordinance that has been passed, but . . .

Fish and Game Commissioners in a number of western states have pointed out -- rather emphatically -- that because an animal is not specifically listed in the fish and game laws does not mean that one may take pot shots at it: it is, in fact, automatically not "fair game" until a ruling has been made concerning it. And if an ABSM, of whatever kind, is determined to be human or hominid rather than pongid, then it's murder. "Self-defense" is unlikely to impress a jury in view of the known number of chaps traipsing cross country looking for one.

Insofar as Canada is concerned, the Sasquatch is Royal Game. In other words, it belongs to the Crown; in addition to which, gun regulations are very stringent in Canada. So, brother beware!

We do not reproduce here the slides we have from Marx's film, partly because of legal complications but primarily because, unless blown up to about 8 x 10 feet, you cannot really make anything of them.

We remain convinced that there is an as yet uncaught, unidentified hominid in the montane areas of our Northwest, across the forested parts of Canada, and elsewhere; and eventually someone will get one -- for information on stun guns, write to Red Palmer, Palmer Chemical & Equipment Co., King Drive, R.R. #4, Douglasville, GA 30134.

VIII. ANTHROPOLOGY

THE CHAIN IN THE ROCK

by Richard T. Grybos

Way back in 1966 two of our members, #17 and #49, went to Renovo, Pennsylvania to investigate reports of Thunderbirds in that area. As is the way with such fortean enterprises, they learned little on this score, but ran into something else: a report of a chain allegedly embedded in rock, and embedded so deeply that it seemed that it must have been 'dropped' there before the rock formed. This chain was alleged to have very large links, not to rust, and to be gradually weathering out of what was described as a granitic-type rock. The area in which it was located is extremely 'wild'--and mostly straight up and down! -- and we were cautioned that no attempt should be made to find it except during that very short period after the leaves dropped but before the snows come in the fall, or after the snow melted but before the leaves came out in the spring. And from 1966 through the fall of 1970 we tried; and each time something happened and we didn't make it.

In mid-May of this year we received a somewhat desperate note from our member #459 which said, in effect, "NOW!". Accordingly, Marion Fawcett, our member Mark Van Horne, and I loaded our gear and headed for Coudersport, where #459 resides. We were treated to the most extraordinary hospitality by him and his entire family and, frankly, without their help, we would probably still be there, trying to find our way either to or from the chain.

On the evening of our arrival we talked by phone with both the original informants -- whose stories had changed considerably over the years -- and laid plans for the following day. The next morning Bob and Mary (#459 Jr. and his wife) appeared as scheduled and drove us to see a sort of local "lore master" who provided additional information and excellent advice. They then drove us, using a topographic map and a compass, through a maze of State Forest roads (and even then we got lost once!) to the trail that leads down to Paddy Run. Bob and Mary very sensibly -- and fortunately, as it turned out -- stayed with their